

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

1. (Original) A method of making a matrix assembly which comprises providing a steel strip (10), treating the upper surface of the steel strip with a resin adhesive, extruding one or more plastic material strips (24, 26) onto the metal strip (10) to define a longitudinal channel (28) and heating the assembly so formed to cure the resin adhesive and adhere the plastic material (22) to the metal strip.
2. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the adhesive resin employed is a polyurethane or polyolefin resin.
3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~either of claims 2 or 3~~ claim 2 wherein the resin is applied to the surface of the steel strip (10) in a continuous manner immediately before the latter passes into an extrusion die (18) where the plastics material (22) is attached thereto by extruding the plastic material profile onto the resin treated steel strip downstream of the extrusion die.
4. (Currently Amended) A method as claim in ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1 wherein the plastic extrusions (22) are controlled and guided into position externally of the extrusion die by a series of horizontally and vertically micrometer adjustable heated precision rollers (29).
5. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1 wherein after the plastics material is attached the assembly passes to a heating zone (30) to cure the adhesive resin and effect bonding of the matrix.

6. (Currently Amended) A method ~~as~~ as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1 wherein after curing the resin the assembly is cooled (32), pulled off (12) and further assembly in-line (34) with a double-sided pressure sensitive adhesive tape to the bottom of the matrix, and thereafter cut into suitable lengths for packaging and onward transmission.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 wherein the plastic material (22) adhered to the steel strip is polypropylene.

8. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1 wherein the metallic material is steel.

9. (Original) A method is claimed in claim 8 wherein the strip (10) is conditioned and degreased before use.

10. (Canceled)

11. (New) A method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the resin is applied to the surface of the steel strip (10) in a continuous manner immediately before the latter passes into an extrusion die (18) where the plastics material (22) is attached thereto by extruding the plastic material profile onto the resin treated steel strip downstream of the extrusion die.

12. (New) A method as claim in claim 11 wherein the plastic extrusions (22) are controlled and guided into position externally of the extrusion die by a series of horizontally and vertically micrometer adjustable heated precision rollers (29).

13. (New) A method as claimed in claim 12 wherein after the plastics material is attached the assembly passes to a heating zone (30) to cure the adhesive resin and effect bonding of the matrix.

14. (New) A method as claimed in claim 13 wherein after curing the resin the assembly is cooled (32), pulled off (12) and further assembly in-line (34) with a double-sided pressure sensitive adhesive tape to the bottom of the matrix, and thereafter cut into suitable lengths for packaging and onward transmission.
15. (New) A method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the plastic material (22) adhered to the steel strip is polypropylene.
16. (New) A method as claimed in claim 15 wherein the metallic material is steel.
17. (New) A method as claimed in claim 16 wherein the adhesive resin employed is a polyurethane or polyolefin resin.
18. (New) A method is claimed in claim 17 wherein the strip (10) is conditioned and degreased before use.